

# STAFF REPORT

**TO:** Community Services Committee  
**FROM:** Community Services Chair  
**DATE:** 13 February 2007  
**SUBJECT:** Chairperson's Report

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Welcome to the first meeting of this Committee for 2007 – I hope you are all ready for another year of challenge and hard work!

We are now almost halfway through the term of this Council and, as always, our greatest challenge will be to manage costs whilst continuing to provide the level of service our communities expect. I was particularly impressed with the way our public areas looked over the holiday season – the weather was often unhelpful but most reserves and parks looked well cared for and attractive. Walkways in particular, where the Council is often assisted by community volunteers, were an attraction in themselves.

The draft Housing Policy is now out for public comment – it will be interesting to receive the feedback on this issue, which has exercised the minds of this committee several times during this term.

With the departmental manager also fulfilling the duties of Chief Executive, I appreciate the pressures both on him and on his staff, and the fact that the department continues to deal with the myriad of daily issues with as little disruption as possible.

P K O'Shea  
Chairperson